

## GOV. MALLOY: \$13.8 MILLION INVESTMENT WILL STRENGTHEN AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND URBAN REVITALIZATION

(HARTFORD, CT) - Governor Dannel P. Malloy today joined Department of Housing Commissioner Evonne Klein, Mayor John DeStefano Jr., and state and local officials, to announce \$13.8 million in grants to fund 11 affordable housing and neighborhood revitalization programs throughout the state. The projects represent partnerships between state and local government as well as nonprofit groups, and will leverage private and federal funds to rehabilitate blighted housing, construct new units, and make improvements to existing properties.

"Working with our municipal and nonprofit partners, we are building strong neighborhoods that will attract businesses, create jobs, and offer residents an attractive place to work and live," said Governor Malloy. "Over ten years we'll make a \$500 million commitment to housing—and I've proposed an additional \$221 million in capital funds in this biennial budget. These investments will bolster economic development and make Connecticut more a more competitive state."

"Since being elected, Governor Malloy has made an historic investment in the state's affordable housing stock, including over \$250 million for affordable housing for seniors, young professionals, and working families," said Commissioner Klein. "The projects announced today will leverage state resources to expand affordable housing options, help revive our city centers, and contribute to our efforts to end homelessness."

The announcement was made at 494 Quinnipiac Avenue in New Haven, the site of a proposed 12-14 single family workforce and affordable housing development. The City of New Haven will receive \$1.5 million to expand its Neighborhood Renewal Program to include transitional neighborhoods—blocks situated between stable neighborhoods and those with greater need. The program will offer workforce housing development subsidies, energy efficiency rehabilitation assistance, and down payment assistance. The program will help stabilize and revitalize the currently underserved transitional neighborhoods, while continuing to address the high-need neighborhoods.

"New Haven has the most densely populated Downtown in New England and the 2010 US Census showed that New Haven had the highest rate of population growth among New England cities," said Mayor John DeStefano, Jr. "In short, there is a very strong demand for housing in New Haven. On behalf of the City, I'd like to thank the state for their support—which will be leveraged with City funding and private investment—of this well-thought out project which will create housing for working and middle class families."

"I am thrilled that New Haven will receive funds to improve our city's livability and reinvigorate neighborhoods throughout our community," said State Representative Roland Lemar (D-New Haven). "Projects like these, which will develop workforce housing, and provide energy efficiency rehabilitation assistance and down payment assistance to home owners, are fundamental to our city's economic and community development needs. With these funds, we will continue to grow New Haven as a vibrant, economically diverse city of thriving neighborhoods."

"Secure housing is the foundation upon which functional communities are built," said State Representative Juan Candelaria (D-New Haven). "I am pleased Governor Malloy is a strong supporter of promoting a healthy housing stock that expands the opportunity for people to have a place they could call home."

The other projects announced today are as follows:

- Access Community Action Agency will receive \$1.5 million to establish a revolving loan fund to rehabilitate small rental properties with up to ten units each. Access Agency's efforts will focus on Danielson and the downtown Willimantic.
- Connecticut Children's Medical Center will receive \$2 million to remove lead and other health and safety hazards from housing units serving low- and moderate-income families, leverage additional funding for energy efficiency upgrades, and assist families in accessing additional resources to maintain a healthy home. The initiative will target fifteen towns and cities, including Bridgeport, Danbury, East Haven, Hartford, Manchester, Meriden, New Britain, New Haven, Norwalk, Stamford, Torrington, Waterbury, West Haven, and Winchester.
- The Connecticut Housing Coalition will receive \$213,000 to help coordinate potential developers, public housing authority residents, and technical consultants to jumpstart new housing or redevelopment plans.
- Connecticut Housing Investment Fund will receive \$1.6 million to establish two urban revitalization programs in East Hartford and Waterbury. The programs will offer low- or interest-free loans that encourage private developers to purchase, rehabilitate, and maintain at-risk properties.
- The Corporation for Supportive Housing will receive \$1.3 million to capitalize the
  Connecticut Supportive Housing Development Fund, which will provide gap financing for
  eight projects yielding 80-90 supportive housing units. The program will have two
  distinct components: an initiative to induce larger-scale developers to include new
  supportive housing, and direct development assistance to new supportive housing
  developments.
- The East Hartford Housing Authority will receive \$2 million to acquire, rehabilitate, and redevelop blighted housing. Once completed, properties will remain in the housing authority portfolio and will be supported by housing authority Section 8 Project Based Vouchers.

- The City of Hartford will receive \$1.5 million to expand the city's homeowner rehabilitation program by assisting homeowners prevent blight and stabilize their properties. Homeowners with incomes of up to 100 percent of the area median income are eligible.
- Housing Development Fund will receive \$1 million to fund the Landlord Entrepreneur and Affordability Program (LEAP). LEAP combines funds from multiple sources and will provide below market assistance to people who will purchase and rehabilitate owner-occupied small multi-family properties throughout Greater Bridgeport. This grant will also leverage funding specifically targeted for energy-efficiency improvements for these properties.
- Mutual Housing Association of South Central Connecticut will receive \$1 million to create an urban revitalization neighborhood program in Waterbury's downtown. The program will redevelop the Gaffney Place neighborhood by acquiring, rehabilitating, and selling several two- and three-family properties to owner-occupants, redesigning the street for traffic and pedestrian safety, and improving façades on non-redeveloped properties. In connection with this program, Webster Bank will offer homebuyer assistance to employees wishing to purchase homes in this area. Proceeds of home sales will be used to fund additional acquisition and rehabilitation of properties in the vicinity.
- The Women's Institute for Housing and Economic Development will receive \$215,000
  to develop a revolving, low-interest loan fund to help qualified homeowners finance the
  construction of accessory apartments. The program will fulfill an urgent public policy
  goal in the northwest corner of the state, which has a great need for additional
  affordable housing but has historically been underserved.

This funding will require State Bond Commission approval.

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